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PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Susumu MARUO, et al.

Appln. No. 10/031,409

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: 2146

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: OINTMENT APPLICATOR AND OINTMENT PATCH USING THE SAME

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for PTO Form 1449) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA) under §1.53(d); (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 10/031,409

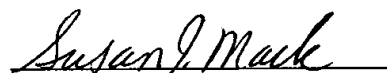
request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

JP 7-97315, JP 7-48249, JP 3-161431, JP 5-238931 and JP 61-210027 were previously disclosed in the International Search Report filed on January 18, 2002. English abstracts of these documents are attached for the Examiner's convenience.

JP 4-257516 is discussed in the specification on page 1, line 19, JP 8-291054 is discussed in the specification on page 1, line 21 and JU 3-066506 is discussed in the specification on page 1, line 22. English abstracts of these documents are also attached.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


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